

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 188

To establish Federal, State, and local programs for the investigation,
reporting, and prevention of bias crimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish Federal, State, and local programs for the
investigation, reporting, and prevention of bias crimes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds that—

5 (1) 5,932 hate crimes were reported to the Fed-
6 eral Bureau of Investigation in 1994;

7 (2) bias crimes are far more lethal than other
8 kinds of attacks, with hospitalization of victims oc-
9 curring four times more often than for other as-
10 saults;

1 (3) 1,843 anti-Semitic incidents were reported
2 to the Anti-Defamation League in 1995, including
3 118 incidents on college campuses;

4 (4) membership in Neo-Nazi groups has in-
5 creased from 1,500 in 12 States in 1988 to 3,500
6 in 40 States in 1994;

7 (5) only 7,356 of the more than 16,000 law en-
8 forcement agencies furnished hate crime data to the
9 Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1994; and

10 (6) Federal, State, and local law enforcement
11 officials have indicated that training in the area of
12 bias crimes is inconsistent and officials repeatedly
13 cite the need for uniform training of officers in the
14 investigation and prevention of bias crime.

15 **SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR.**

16 The Attorney General shall appoint in the Depart-
17 ment of Justice a National Director of Bias Crime (herein-
18 after referred to in this Act as the “Director”).

19 **SEC. 3. DUTIES OF DIRECTOR.**

20 The Director shall, in cooperation with the appro-
21 priate Federal, State, and local agencies, including the De-
22 partment of the Treasury, the Federal Bureau of Inves-
23 tigation, and the Community Relations Service of the De-
24 partment of Justice—

1 (1) examine the needs of Federal, State, and
2 local law enforcement agencies in training officers
3 for the investigation and reporting of bias crimes;

4 (2) recommend to the Attorney General policy
5 options for the enhancement of bias crime interdiction and prevention;

7 (3) determine a national curriculum for a train-the-trainer program to be administered by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center;

10 (4) determine a national curriculum for officer training in investigation and reporting of bias crimes to be delivered through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center;

14 (5) coordinate the bias crime efforts of the Department of the Treasury, Department of Education, Department of Justice, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Community Relations Service of the Department of Justice;

20 (6) develop a national curriculum to be taught as a preventative measure at elementary and secondary schools throughout the country;

1 (7) make available to law enforcement agencies
2 materials, prepared by Federal, State, local, and vic-
3 tims' rights organizations, pertinent to bias crime
4 investigation and prevention;

5 (8) coordinate technical assistance provided to
6 State and local law enforcement agencies related to
7 the prevention, investigation and prosecution of bias
8 crime;

9 (9) coordinate assistance to victims of bias
10 crime; and

11 (10) award grants to States that have estab-
12 lished lead agencies to coordinate efforts to combat
13 bias crime and developed innovative programs con-
14 sistent with the purposes of this Act.

15 **SEC. 4. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.**

16 The training programs established by the Director,
17 acting through the Federal Law Enforcement Training
18 Center and in cooperation with the Secretary of the Treas-
19 ury shall include, at a minimum, the following:

20 (1) Recognition of basic elements of bias crimes
21 and proper initial response procedures.

22 (2) Instruction on how to comply with all Fed-
23 eral reporting requirements under the National Hate
24 Crimes Statistics Act.

1 (3) Notification of law enforcement officials re-
2 garding the history and growth of organized bias
3 groups in the United States.

4 (4) Methods to develop preventative education
5 curriculum for local schools and community youth
6 groups.

7 (5) Methods to cope with the trauma experi-
8 enced by victims of bias crime.

9 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

10 For purposes of this Act, the term “train-the-trainer
11 program” means a program that teaches selected members
12 of the law enforcement community how to train members
13 of a local law enforcement agency how to investigate and
14 report bias crimes.

15 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 There are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000
17 for each of the fiscal years 1998 through 2000 to carry
18 out the projects under this Act.

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